

Southam Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1969

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1970

1, EUSTON SQUARE,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

4th August, 1970.

To the Southam Rural District Council

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to report upon the health of your district for the year 1969. Your population rose again to a total which is approximately one quarter more than the 1960 population. During this decade the birth rates have been two and one half to three times the death rates. This is of obvious long-term significance to the planners of various public services as well as an indication that your district is a very healthy place in which to live. The inhabitants are indeed remarkable for their longevity; for not once in this decade has the crude death rate reached double figures and even after correction it is not more than three-quarters of the national rate. There have been few infectious diseases other than measles. Over a hundred persons were released from unfit property. Stage Two of our Napton Sewerage scheme has at long last reached completion. A public enquiry has been held into your proposals to sewer the parish of Ufton. Although approval of the Minister in principle has been given, national finances have not allowed a starting date to be allocated. The delay gives time to examine further possibilities of pumping the sewage to existing works either at Harbury or Southam in comparison with purpose built treatment plant sited on the lower slopes of Ufton hill.

I have once again the pleasure to thank the many members of the Council who have encouraged and assisted our work as well as officers and colleagues who have so ably and willingly helped me during the past year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,
Medical Officer of Health.

Southam Rural District.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1969.

Population (estimated) Mid-year	...	...	...	...	19,690
Area	...	...	...	...	62,527 acres
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	...	...	20.8
" " " " " (corrected)	...	...	...	...	21.8
Still Birth Rate—Rates per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	14
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	...	...	7.5
" " " " " (corrected)	...	...	...	...	8.8
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	15
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	16
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	—

There was a rise of population of 700 persons, natural increase accounting for 262 only of this figure.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

1. (a) Staff of Health Department.

Medical Officer of Health (part-time)

Dr. F. D. M. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., B.Chir.
(Cantab.), M.R.C.P. (London), D.C.H., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time)

Dr. MYRTLE V. RICHARDS, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.C.H., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

G. S. H. PEATY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

P. TELFORD, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

R. CHEETHAM, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
P. F. DAVIS, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

Mrs. B. R. STEELE.

Mrs. P. M. DAVISON.

Miss J. ALSOP.

*S. BUCKLEY.

*Miss B. GIBBONS-WARD.

*Members of Local Health Authority Clerical Staff with part time allocated to services of the Joint Sanitary Committee, Medical Officer of Health's office.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities*.—Routine bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry, in regard to water, prevention of infectious disease, etc. 108 samples were submitted in the year. Water Boards conduct their own quality control. Thanks are due to Dr. J. E. M. WHITEHEAD and his laboratory staff for their help and advice.

(b) *Local Health Authority Services*.—Child Welfare Centres are held within your district as follows :—

Southam—W.I. Hut, Craven Lane ; *Bishops Itchington*—Memorial Hall ; *Long Itchington*—Village Hall ; *R. A. F. Gaydon* ; *Harbury*—Village Hall ; *Fenny Compton*—Village Hall ; *Stockton*—Village Hall ; *Napton*—Village Hall.

District Nurses or Midwives resident in the district :—

Southam—Miss G. B. A. KOHLER, Miss V. WILD. *Fenny Compton*—Mrs. TREACEY. *Long Itchington*—Miss M. WORTHINGTON. *Bishops Itchington*—Miss B. WADE.

Health Visitors—Miss F. M. BOODEN, Miss S. M. MALARKEY, Miss L. M. WILCOX.

Ambulance service is provided from the County Council's Depot in Warwick. Inquiries regarding local health services should be made to the Area Health Office, 1, Euston Square, Leamington Spa (Tel. 27284).

Messages regarding nursing and midwifery or child welfare may be sent to the same address for the attention of the Area Nursing Officer, Miss H. R. TAYLOR. Domestic Help enquiries are handled at the above office by the Area Home Help Organiser, Miss J. WALKER.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

(i) *Water Supply.*

Of the 108 samples of water submitted for bacteriological examinations, 53 were found to be unsatisfactory; one of these was from a Water Board's mains and subsequent examinations showed the supply to be satisfactory. The remaining unsatisfactory samples were from a village water company's supply and a private estate supply. The source of the contamination of the village supply was eventually traced and removed and the owners of the estate supply undertook to take steps to make the supply safe. The South Warwickshire Water Board supplies direct from their mains 4,793 houses with 17,000 inhabitants. None of these houses have supply by a stand-pipe.

Water is supplied into this rural district by two undertakers, the South Warwickshire and Rugby Water Boards. I am indebted to the Manager of the former, Mr. C. A. Innes Jones, for the report of analysis of water taken from Holy Well, Southam.

Average of six samples.

Description: Holy Well, Southam.

					<i>P.P.M.</i>
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.11
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	57.4
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	23
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate					
at 27°C. in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	—
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	...	—
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	—
pH	...	...	...	...	7.2
Iron	...	...	...	...	0.07
Hardness	Temporary	...	...	...	118
	Permanent	...	...	...	529
	Total	...	...	...	647
Manganese	...	...	...	...	0.01
Electrical Conductivity @ 20° C.					1,449 micromhos
Fluoride, F.	...	...	...	...	0.17

Good progress was made on the immense new Draycote reservoir which is a joint development by these two boards and abstraction from the River Leam began during the winter of 1968/69. By increasing storage for the Leamington reservoir it will be of great benefit to this district.

(ii) *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal*:—

Napton (Chapel Green area).—This scheme, long awaited, was completed early in the year.

Ufton.—A local investigation into the scheme by an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was held on the 15th July. Subsequently the council was advised that whilst a system of foul sewers in Ufton was approved in principle the need was not sufficiently urgent to justify that it should proceed during the current financial restrictions. There was also a suggestion that the sewage be pumped to treatment works already existing in Harbury or Southam, and the Council's consulting engineers were subsequently instructed to report on this suggestion.

General.—Except Ufton, all the centres of population other than the smallest hamlets are now provided with foul sewers and treatment plants. Continuing efforts to persuade property owners to convert pail closets to water closets have resulted in a further 66 conversions, leaving 58 dwellings with pail closets emptied by the Council. Of these 47 are outside the sewered areas or are subject to demolition or closing orders.

(iii) *Refuse Collection*.—The paper sack refuse collection service was maintained in spite of the scarcity of suitable labour.

D. HOUSING

The Council made a further 29 Standard Improvement Grants and 16 Discretionary Grants, the amount paid out being £11,688.

Under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1957, notices under Section 16 were served in respect of 24 houses; 16 demolition orders and 2 closing orders were made and 12 undertakings to make houses fit or not allow re-occupation were accepted. Closing orders were substituted for demolition orders already made to allow 3 houses to be used for business storage purposes. A clearance order in respect of 4 dwellings was revoked after the property had been made fit and the operation of 4 demolition orders was deferred to allow modernisation works to be carried out. One demolition order was revoked after the property had been made fit and 8 houses which had been the subjects of undertakings were made fit. 12 houses in clearance areas and 23 houses subject to demolition orders were demolished together with a further 9 cottages on a site purchased by the Council for redevelopment. 123 persons were rehoused from unfit properties.

Caravan Sites Act, 1960.

The caravan site at Lighthorne, licensed for 55 caravans, is now under new ownership and is being maintained and run at a high standard.

E. FOOD AND DRUGS

Food Hygiene Regulations

Routine visits to food shops and hotels were continued. The Council authorized the institution of legal proceedings in respect of the sale of bread containing foreign material. These resulted in a fine of £10 with 5 guineas costs being imposed upon the retail trader concerned.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

Category of Trade	No. of Premises to which Regulations apply	No. inspected and complying with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. inspected and complying with Reg. 19
Public Houses	1969 50	1969 50	1969 50	1969 50
General Grocery, etc.	47	47	47	47
Catering * Establishments. (Not licensed)	25	25	25	25
Bakeries	3	3	3	3
Butchers	15	12	15	15
Others †	1	1	1	1
Totals	141	138	141	141

* Village Halls included in this category; occasional catering of minimal nature takes place.

† Depot for Mobile Fish and Chip Shop.

Milk Sampling.—During 1969 sampling officers of the County Council submitted milk samples taken within your district for tests made with the following results:—

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1953, as amended.
Dealers' Licences.

Samples 79. Untreated 3, of which none failed*. Pasturized 74, all satisfactory except two.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 31.

Biological Examinations for Tubercle Bacilli and Brucella organisms.

Samples 19. Positive nil
Negative 19

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the above information.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1961

		Dysentery	Measles	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1961	...	3	345	7	—	8	—	1
1962	...	30	75	—	—	3	—	—
1963	...	16	152	2	—	3	—	—
1964	...	1	41	—	—	6	—	—
1965	...	4	276	7	—	4	—	2
1966	...	1	122	12	—	4	—	—
1967	...	—	151	4	—	2	—	2
1968	...	—	178	1	—	1	—	—
1969	...	—	120	—	—	—	—	—

All except four of the year's notifications were of measles. This was the first year in which an active vaccine had been available for general use against measles but unfortunately the scheme proved to have been prematurely launched when one of the makes of vaccine was withdrawn leaving supplies short of the target. The news of this impaired the confidence with which both doctors and patients had regarded the procedure and it may be slow in the restoration.

*Methylene Blue test.

1969

Age Periods	New cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.—The following table shows the notified cases and deaths during the past 20 years :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Cases ...	12	15	12	22	20	21	20
Deaths	6	1	1	1	1	1	2
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Cases ...	13	7	13	7	3	4	4
Deaths	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	
Cases ...	—	5	10	8	11	3	
Deaths	1	—	1	1	2	—	

One patient was admitted to Sanatorium during 1969 and one was discharged.

B.C.G. Vaccination (Scholar's Scheme).

The local health authority offers annually to school children aged 13 years the opportunity of having a skin test of tuberculin sensitivity followed, where parental consent is given, by vaccination of non-reactors with live B.C.G. vaccine.

The work done at Southam High School in 1969 was as shown below.

Heaf Tests done	...	...	...	134
Positive reactions	...	...	...	19
Number given B.C.G. vaccine	...	...	...	110

Nine children were referred for x-ray of chest because of the strength of their positive reactions; all were clear.

B.C.G. vaccine is a preparation of live tuberculosis organisms of reduced virulence.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the 1948 Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction, for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place, e.g. hospital or institution and detain him or her for a period not exceeding three months.

The 1951 Act provides for a single magistrate to hear an application supported by joint medical certificates of the regular medical attendant and the M.O.H. This procedure obtains in cases of urgency where the foregoing periods of notice may not be possible. Detention orders will then be for a period not exceeding 21 days unless extended in accordance with the 1948 Act.

No reports were received during 1969 of such a nature as to justify the foregoing causes of action.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

RODENT CONTROL

Time has again been devoted to the Stockton Tip but there have been no serious infestations. Progress was made with the inspection and treatment of sewers. There are 66 contracts, including 63 farms where routine inspections and treatments are made. Domestic complaints received prompt attention.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

During the year five existing premises were inspected and, upon application, the licences renewed.

The licences authorize the reception of a maximum number of 145 dogs and 58 cats at any one time in these five licensed establishments.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Sixty premises were on the Register at the end of 1969. These comprised 8 offices, 40 Retail Shops, 11 Catering Establishments and one Fuel Storage Depot.

Eighteen of these premises received a general inspection and a total of 54 visits were made to registered premises.

REGISTER OF PLANS SUBMITTED TO SOUTHAM R.D.C.

	1969
New dwellings	216
Conversions to dwellings	6
Alterations and improvements and ex- tensions to dwellings	66
Agricultural buildings	12
Outline applications, sites for development	94
Business Premises	35
	<hr/> 429 <hr/>
	1969
Private dwelling houses erected	319
Council owned dwellings completed:	
(1) Houses	78
(2) Flats	30
(3) Bungalows	29
	<hr/> 456 <hr/>

G. S. H. PEATY,
Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

TABLE I.

SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING YEAR 1969.

	Inspections & Observa- tions made	Notices Served		Work carried out after notice
		Statutory	Informal	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	315	0	12	7
Overcrowding	3	0	0	0
Verminous houses	4	0	0	0
Bakehouses	6	0	0	0
Ashpits and Privies	0	0	0	0
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	5	0	0	0
Ice Cream	15	0	0	0
House Drainage (including conversions)	191	0	17	17
Pigsties	5	0	0	0
Smoke Nuisance	3	0	0	0
Factories and Workshops ...	12	0	0	0
Food Shops	47	0	5	5
Rat and Mice infestations ...	814	0	0	0
Refuse Collection	37	0	0	0
Cafes	28	0	0	0
Mobile Food Vans	7	0	2	2
Infectious Disease	15	0	0	0
Unsound Food	10	0	0	0
Water Supply	112	0	0	0
Complaints	97	0	0	0
Caravans	12	0	0	0
Canteens	2	0	0	0
TOTALS	1,740	0	36	31

TABLE II.
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1969.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each year	Births		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Nett		Under 1 Year of age		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1960	15,960	265	16.6	6	22.6	145	9.1
1961	16,460	266	16.2	4	15.0	135	8.2
1962	16,450	332	20.2	10	30.0	155	9.4
1963	16,740	322	19.2	7	21.7	154	9.2
1964	17,150	338	19.6	5	14.8	148	8.6
1965	17,070	340	19.9	1	2.9	110	6.5
1966	17,700	325	18.4	4	12.3	142	8.0
1967	18,040	340	18.8	5	14.7	149	8.3
1968	18,990	349	18.4	7	20.0	173	9.1
1969	19,690	409	20.8	6	15.0	147	7.5

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1969.

(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

	Live Births	Still Births per 1,000 Births	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
England and Wales 1969	16.3	14	11.9	18

TABLE III.

SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR,
1969.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox									
Leptospirosis									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)									
Yellow Fever									
Scarlet Fever									
Paratyphoid Fever									
Typhoid Fever									
Anthrax									
Dysentery									
Acute Encephalitis									
Acute Meningitis									
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)									
Whooping Cough									
Tetanus									
Infective Jaundice	1				1				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum									
Measles	120	3	67	49		1			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2			1		1			
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1			1					
Food Poisoning									
Totals	124	3	67	51	1	2			

TABLE IV.
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1969.

LIST B (CAUSES OF DEATH)					MALES	FEMALES
4	Enteritis/Diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	1
18	Other infective, etc.	...	...	...	—	1
17	Syphilis	...	...	...	—	1
19 (3)	Cancer—Stomach	...	...	...	2	—
19 (4)	Cancer—Intestine	...	...	...	3	1
19 (5)	Cancer—Larynx	...	...	...	1	—
19 (6)	Cancer—Lung and Bronchus	...	...	...	2	—
19 (7)	Cancer—Breast	...	...	...	—	1
19 (9)	Cancer—Prostate	...	...	...	1	—
19 (10)	Leukaemia	...	...	...	1	—
19 (11)	Other malignant neoplasms	...	...	...	2	2
21	Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	—	—
27	Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	2	—
28	Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	24	19
29	Other heart disease	...	...	...	2	6
30	Cerebro-vascular disease	...	...	...	9	9
31	Influenza	...	...	...	1	1
32	Pneumonia	...	...	...	7	5
33 (1)	Bronchitis/Emphysema	...	...	...	3	2
33 (2)	Asthma	...	...	...	—	1
37	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	—	1
38	Nephritis/Nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—
39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	—	—
40	Abortion	...	...	...	—	1
41	Pregnancy/Childbirth	...	...	...	—	—
42	Congenital Abnormalities	...	...	...	1	—
43	Birth injury, etc.	...	...	...	2	—
44	Other perinatal mortality	...	...	...	1	2
45	Ill-defined conditions	...	...	...	—	—
46	All other diseases	...	...	...	7	8
BE47	Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	...	5	2
BE48	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	—
BE49	Suicide, etc.	...	...	...	2	1
BE50	All other external causes	...	...	...	—	1
All Causes					81	66

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SOUTHAM IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICK

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Insp'tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	12	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	55	12	2	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1).....	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					
Total	2	2	—	—	—



